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FORTY-THIRD YEAR.

VOLUME LXXXVIII.
NUMBER 23.

LONDON: JUNE 9, 1921.

EVERY THURSDAY.
PRICE TWOPENCE.

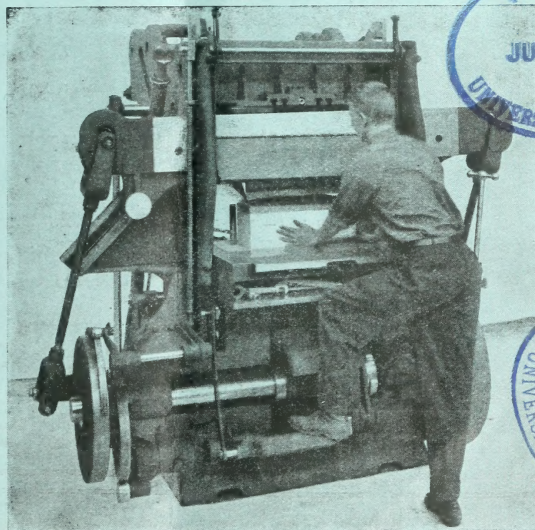
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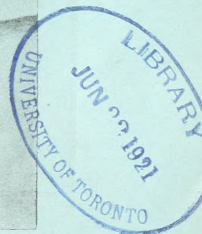
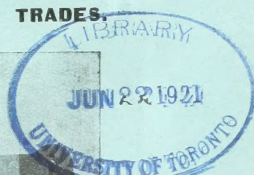
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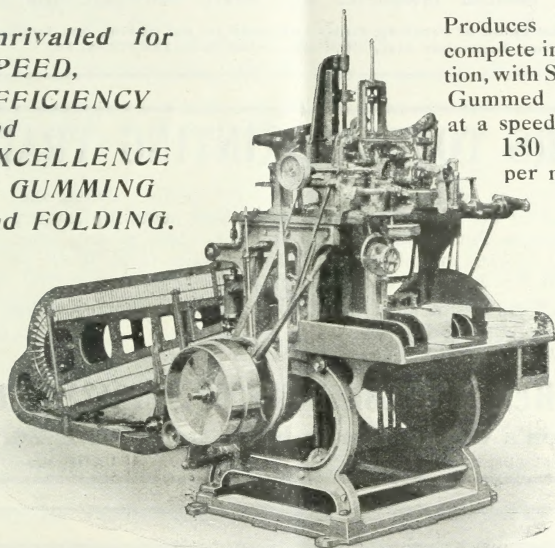
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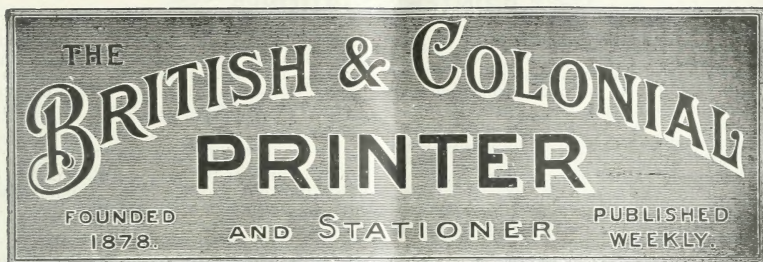
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Bookbinding as a Craft and as an Industry.

By DOUGLAS COCKERELL.

We cannot consider bookbinding quite apart from book-printing, for the two are but mutually dependent branches of the master-craft of book-production, and no satisfactory book can be designed unless the limitations and aims of both these branches are taken into account.

Just as the traditions governing the printing of books can be traced back to the 15th century printers, who, in their turn, approximated the work as nearly as they could to that of the scribes, so the traditions governing the craft of bookbinding can be traced back to very early times. The little book found in the tomb of St. Cuthbert in the 12th century and now in the library of Stonyhurst College was possibly bound in the seventh or eighth century, and almost certainly not later than the 10th century, while in the 12th century there were in England flourishing binderies at Durham and Winchester, much of whose splendid work has come down to us practically intact. These books show that the essentials of good binding were well understood in those early days. There is no essential difference between the methods employed by these early binders and those employed by the best binders of to-day. Wood for the boards has given place to mill-board, and blind stamping has been largely superseded by gold tooling, but the constructive principles have not changed. The use of hollow backs for leather binding is a comparatively recent and degenerate custom; the practice of throwing the strain of opening and shutting entirely upon the joints fails to make use of the special qualities of toughness and flexibility of the leather.

Paper read at the World's Printing Trade Congress, May 12th.

Essentials of Good Binding.

The essential qualities of a good permanent binding for a normal book may be taken to be: (a) That all the sections of the book should be sound at the back, and that all "plates" or single leaves should be attached by guards that can be sewn through, so that every leaf will open right to the back; (b) that the sections should be sewn on to flexible cords or tapes (or thongs), and that the ends of these cords or tapes should be firmly attached to stiff boards; (c) that the back and joints should be covered with some flexible material that, while protecting the sewing thread and cord, will in itself add to strength of the binding. A fine binding will have many other features added by way of refinement or elaboration, but unless these qualities are present it is likely to be an unsatisfactory piece of work.

While the most modern letterpress printer is doing essentially the same thing as was done by the first printing press and all the elaboration of machinery merely tends to quicken up and increase the mechanical exactness of impressions of inked type on paper, the modern machine binder has not been able to approximate his work so nearly to that of the early binder.

Publishers' "Bindings."

Publishers' "boards" were originally intended to serve as temporary protections to a book until such time as the owner had the volume permanently bound. The publisher's cover of to-day is all the binding most books ever get. Publishers' cases fail as temporary bindings, because they are too elaborate to be thrown away, and because the backing and casing-in of a book seriously injure the

sections for rebinding. They fail as permanent bindings because of their faulty construction. The chief weakness in publishers' "bindings" lies in the poor connection between the book and the case. The hand binder laces his slips into his boards, and unless he reduces these slips unduly he gets a very strong joint. The method of casing books does not allow of such lacing in.

Something can be done, however, to fasten a case on to a book securely. Probably the most effective way to do this is to make the case with "split" boards, and to insert the slips between the two thicknesses. The boards for the case are made up of two thin boards glued together for two-thirds of their width, the inner sides being left unglued. After the case is made the inner board is slit at the edge below the turn-in of the cloth, and the loose portion turned back to receive the slips, which are glued between the two boards and the end paper glued down in the usual way. This does not take so long to do as might be supposed, but it is, of course, more costly than the ordinary method of casing.

A cheaper but less effective method is to case in the ordinary way but to use a stout, strong paper for the ends that will act in some measure as one thickness of the split board. I have found this to answer well in the case of some crown 8vo text books that have very heavy use in class and workshops. Of course, normally strong connection can be made by attaching anything to the surface of a straw-board, as the surface will pull off very easily. A tougher board must be used where great strength is essential. Both these methods call for tape sewing. To sew heavy books on thin hemp and to turn the slips on to the back, or to sew without slips, is merely looking for trouble. A method that may answer fairly well for very small light books is useless for books of any weight that are expected to last in use for a reasonable time.

Covering Materials.

When selecting covering material for a publisher's case, consideration should be given to the weight of the book to be cased and to its probable life of usefulness. The thinner binders' cloths, which are little more than muslin and dressing, are unsuitable for covering heavy books that are expected to have any permanent value.

There has been done a good deal of work on standards for bookbinding material. The special committee of the Royal Society of Arts on bookbinding leather established useful standards for this material. As a result of their work, leather for binding can now be had that is free from injurious acids and is soundly tanned. Much of the leather used for binding, although it may be mechanically strong when new, and excellent for purposes where it is not expected to have a long life, is quite unsuited for permanent bindings. The Washington Bureau of Standards has done excellent work in investigating the qualities of woven bookbinding materials, and probably the library buckram produced as a result of their investigations is the most satisfactory

binding material of the kind yet made. Some of the leather substitutes wear well enough for temporary use, but further investigation is needed to ascertain how far they are suited for binding where permanence is a necessary quality.

Present Day Costs.

At the present time we are all anxious to know in what way the immensely increased cost of binding and casing will affect the trade. Personally, I anticipate changes in two opposite directions. I think that it is likely that publishers will be forced to issue many books in paper covers in the Continental style, leaving the owners to bind them if they will. I also think that the great libraries will demand that the books they buy shall be more serviceably bound than they are at present. This latter demand suggests a common-sense reform, because the cost of pulling and rebinding individual books is immensely greater per volume than is the cost of binding with equal strength, a fair number of the same books directly from the sheets. If the libraries would co-operate and bulk their orders, paying a fair sum for the better work, they could get bindings on the lines that I have indicated that would last as long as the paper of the book, and they would save the extra cost many times over on their rebinding bills. This suggests a possible way in which publishers' binders may find work to replace that lost, should the practice of issuing books in paper covers become common. The miscellaneous binder would, of course, gain by the change. Miscellaneous binding is a much more important trade on the Continent than it is with us.

Pre-requisites for Good Binding.

I have said that no satisfactory book can be designed unless the aims and limitations of both the printer and the binder are taken into account. The binder *can* bind almost any book so that it won't open well, but if he is asked to put together into the form of a book paper that is much too thick for the size of the leaf with perhaps a bundle of plates to be inserted that are like a pack of playing cards, he can't make much of a job of it. The resulting book is unlikely to open freely, and will probably gape like a dead oyster when it should be shut.

The thickness of the paper in relation to the size of the leaf is a matter that directly concerns the binder, as does also the size of the sections. Very thick sections are clumsy; they split apart in use, and the binder cannot get with them a well-shaped back. On the other hand, unduly thin sections make extra work in sewing, and if reasonably thick thread is used, the swelling in the back may be excessive. In all books it is desirable that a blank leaf should be left at the beginning and end, on to which the binder can attach his end-papers. It is very unsightly to see end-papers tipped on to a printed page.

Then there is the vexed question of inserted full-page illustrations called "plates." If a book is to open well, the pages must be thin

enough for a single page to fall down of its own weight, and the same rule applies to "plates," which are merely additional pages. The habit of printing inserted illustrations on paper much thicker than that of the book is a mistaken one. Wherever possible the "plates" and letterpress should be on the same paper, but if this is not possible, plates and letterpress should at least be printed on paper of the same thickness. The custom of inserting plates by tipping them on adjoining leaves is highly unsatisfactory. Such plates and the leaves to which they are attached cannot open right to the back. The reader, in the natural desire to get them to open flat, presses them apart, and the plates become loose. Plates printed on art paper cannot be even moderately securely attached by tipping on, as the coated surface of this paper readily flakes off with the paste at the slightest strain. All plates and single leaves in books of any importance should be secured by guards that are either formed by turning up about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch of their inner margins, or by separately attached strips of thin paper. Guarded plates bother the machine sewers, but tipped on plates distress the buyers by coming out after a very short use.

Margins and Cropping.

If the printer has any regard for the appearance of his work, he pays great attention to the position of his type on the page, and the proportion of the resulting margins. The binder is often blamed for altering the proportion of the margins by over cropping. Very often the fault lies with the printer, who will leave only the exact amount he wants between the type in the centre of his sheet, leaving the edges of the sheet to project as they will. The result is that in order to clear the "bolts" the binder has to cut a good deal off. You cannot cut very finely when cutting off the folded edges of the leaves if the edge of the book is to be cleared. The difficulty can be largely overcome by so imposing type that the bolts project at least as far as the edges of the sheet when the sheet is folded. It does not matter greatly if some of the edges are not caught by the guillotine; both binder and public like to see a little "proof" that the book has not been unduly cut down. It would often be useful if the printer would give the binder some guide as to the margins he desired on letterpress and plates. Printers and binders' ideas on this matter often differ.

I have not attempted to deal with the decoration of bindings, as it would take too long to go into this interesting but large and controversial subject. Moreover, without profuse illustration I could hardly make my points clear on this side of the craft.

Betterment of Machine Binding.

The best work of our best craftsmen both in printing and bookbinding is equal to any work done at any time. The output of machinery cannot equal in interest the work of the brain-directed hand, but machine-made books can at least be sound in construction and pleasant to see and to use. There have been built up through the ages standards for

good hand binding. Can we not, by the help of such congresses as this, gradually establish equally sound traditions for machine-made bindings that will efficiently protect the books they enclose?



THE BROMLEY AND BRIDEWELL MAGAZINE.—We have received from the Grout Engraving Co., of 7, Bridewell-place, E.C.4, the third number of their well-known house organ. The current number shows a steady improvement over the previous issues, and the staff are to be complimented upon their successful undertaking. This issue contains an exhaustive article written for the lay mind on "The Making of Blocks." We believe this to be in every way unique, for we know of no work on process engraving where the subject has, as a whole, been set out in a clear and non-technical way by one who is himself a practical worker. Bearing in mind also the remarkable fact that many of those who supply the public with printed illustrations, both publishers and printers, are ignorant of the methods by which the printing surfaces they use in reproducing pictures and photographs are arrived at, one feels confident that the compilers of this very interesting organ will have cleared away any doubt that may have existed, and also opened up for some a sealed book of knowledge. On the whole a very useful house organ, and one that should find its way into the hands of everyone connected with the printing trade.

We have received a copy of a new work containing a selection from the many woodcuts by Ludovic Rodo which is published from the office of the *Bookplate Magazine* under the title of "Ex libris and Marks by Ludovic Rodo." There are included 32 woodcuts, all of which show that this artist-craftsman can use wood as a medium of expression with ease and charm. Frank Brangwyn, R.A., in the preface says: "They are little works of art, full of expression and feeling, delicate but direct, simple but strong, full of charm but not lacking in depth." (Price 3s 9d.).

THE late Mr. Samuel Schofield Lord, editor of the *Barrow Guardian*, left £2,553.

AUSTRALIAN COMPANY'S SUCCESS.—The operations of William Brooks and Co., Ltd. (printers and stationers), for the year to December 31st, 1920, resulted in a net profit of £7,575. A 10 per cent. dividend on all shares (of which 7 per cent. has already been distributed in interim payments) absorbed £5,714. The capital (£58,315) consists of 18,600 ordinary and 39,715 preference £1 shares, all fully paid. Reserves and undivided profits total £17,967.

The Federation Annual Meeting.

Later Scarborough Proceedings deal with
Matters of Vital Interest to Every Printer.

Following upon last week's Cost Congress (reported in our last issue), the annual meeting of the Federation of Master Printers and Allied Trades was held on the Tuesday. The business was gone through with so much dispatch that it was found possible to dispense with Wednesday's sitting.

Mr. E. W. Humphries, of Bradford, presided at the meeting, and presented the report of the Federation Council, which showed an excellent record of work well done and progress accomplished.

Retiring President's Address.

Mr. Humphries, in his presidential address, remarked that the year that the Federation had just finished had been a momentous one in the history of the printing trade of England. They all knew the difficult times through which they had gone. The outstanding feature of the year was the dispute that took place in Liverpool and Manchester, and the extraordinary feature of that dispute was that it was not capital *versus* labour, employer against employed, but it was a great fight that took place on a matter of principle, and he submitted that it was the principle that underlay that dispute that had so solidified them as a trade, and had enabled them to come through without ill-feeling, and had united with them a very large proportion of the workers of this country. The men who were disputing the matter were a limited number of T.A. members, represented by Manchester and Liverpool. The rest of the T.A. members—which society had a membership of between 30,000 and 40,000—objected to the attitude of their members in Liverpool and Manchester, and supported the Federation, as did also other trade unions, representative of other trades. The trade throughout the country were glad when that dispute was settled. (Hear, hear.) It had so solidified them as a trade that they had raised a fund, with the help of their newspaper friends, of over £63,000. Such a sum had never before been raised in their Federation. (Applause.) Therefore he thought they were entitled to congratulate themselves, particularly as they had come out of the dispute friendly, with the good opinion of the Labour leaders and the bulk of their workers. (Applause.)

Joint Industrial Council.

Referring next to the work of the Joint Industrial Council, Mr. Humphries observed that during the year that institution had been at times severely criticised by some employers as well as workpeople. It seemed to him that the council was objected to on much the same lines as the League of Nations was. The J.I.C. had proved itself to be of great

value, as shown by the statement made at the luncheon held in the Agricultural Hall, London, at which the Minister of Labour, Dr. Macnamara, was present and remarked that if the other trades in the country had conducted their relationship with their workers in the same way as the printing trade had done there would be no need for a Ministry of Labour. (Applause.) That happy state of affairs to his mind, continued the president, was very largely due to the J.I.C., which had taken up a judicious attitude and enabled them to settle a number of disputes. Continuing, the President said the object of the J.I.C. was to attain square dealing, and he thought the workers were beginning to recognise that if they came to that Council they would obtain a square deal. (Hear, hear.) Very good work had also been done by the J.I.C. in regard to the training of apprentices, while in regard to other matters also similar good service had been rendered by the various committees. Of these, one, under the chairmanship of Mr. Waterston, of Edinburgh, was doing, to his mind, the greatest work that they as a trade or any other trade could do, and that was, if possible to arrive at a solution of the most important question before them—unemployment. (Hear, hear.)

Unemployment.

The statistics which had been gathered showed it was an extremely vital matter, and unless they as a trade, and every other trade, solved the question of unemployment, this country was not going to have peace. (Hear, hear.) He did not see how they could expect their workers to give the output they expected unless they were assured of a more or less permanent income. He urged that some means should be found whereby the worker had removed from him the fear of unemployment and consequent distress to his wife and family. (Applause.) He asked every printer in England to lend his assistance and influence to bring about what he was absolutely sure was essential to the well-being of our country as well as the well-being of our trade. (Applause.)

Satisfactory Finance.

Mr. Edward Unwin, senior, moved the adoption of the statement of accounts, which showed a very substantial excess of income over expenditure for the year.

The accounts were explained by Col. H. Rivers Fletcher, the newly-appointed Assistant Treasurer, who congratulated the Federation on having the most satisfactory balance-sheet they had ever had as a Federation.

The report and balance-sheet were approved.

New President Elected.

On the motion of the retiring president seconded by Sir Wm. Waterlow, London, Mr James MacLehose, M.A., LL.D., was unanimously chosen as president of the Federation for the ensuing year. In making the proposition, Mr. Humphries remarked that Dr. MacLehose was known to most master printers as the head of a well-known printing firm, and for many years he had been closely connected with the printing trade of that great country, Scotland. (Applause.) He was respected in his country, honoured by his university, and had acted as a most able vice-president of the Federation during the past year. He was a man of sound judgment, broad-minded, and he felt perfectly certain that he could hand over the duties of president to him in the full confidence that he would act in the ablest possible manner and preside over the deliberations of that Federation in a thoroughly efficient and worthy manner. (Applause.)

Sir Wm. Waterlow said it was most fortunate for them that in such difficult times they could have in the presidential chair a man like Dr. MacLehose, on whom they could all rely.

Dr. MacLehose, in expressing thanks for the election, said that as one who had given his life's work to the book and printing trade, he felt deeply touched by the honour that Federation of 5,100 members had conferred upon him.

Other Elections.

On the motion of Mr. J. J. Keliher, London, Mr. R. A. Austen Leigh was elected senior vice-president, the motion being seconded by Mr. Lee, chairman of the Nottingham Association.

Mr. Johnson, Manchester, moved the election of Mr. J. C. Coppock, Warrington, ex-president of the Lancashire and Cheshire Alliance, as junior vice-president of the Federation. This was seconded by Mr. A. C. Hill, London, and cordially approved.

Mr. W. A. Townsend, president of the Yorkshire Alliance, moved the re-election of Mr. Unwin as treasurer, and the election of Lieut.-Col. Fletcher as assistant treasurer, and this was approved.

The auditors, Messrs A. C. Roberts, Wright and Co., were re-elected, on the motion of Mr. Graham, Belfast, seconded by Mr. Hobbs.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the retiring president, vice-presidents, treasurer, council, and committees for their work in the past year. This was moved by Dr. W. B. Blaikie, of Edinburgh, who paid high tribute to the work that had been accomplished.

Mr. Sellers, Manchester, seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. E. W. Humphries responded, and called upon Sir William Waterlow, president of the Printers' Pension Corporation, to address the meeting.

A Pensions Appeal.

Sir William Waterlow made an earnest appeal for support for the Printers' Pension, Almshouses and Orphan Asylum Corporation

funds. He mentioned that the Corporation had always been extremely fortunate in having the support of the Royal Family. The institution was established in 1827 by printers for the benefit of printers and maintained solely by members of the industry. It provided a neutral ground for the mutual interests of the employer and the employed. There were 1,300 war orphans receiving weekly allowances to the extent of £30,000 a year, children from all over the country. Every child of a fallen soldier who had been a printer was eligible for help. The sum of £32,000 per annum was also being distributed in grants.

Paper and Protection.

Sir Cecil Harrison moved: "The Federation of Master Printers and Allied Trades of Great Britain and Ireland protest most strongly against the proposal that paper should be subject to a customs duty under the Safeguarding of Industries Bill. Any such duties would increase the cost of paper, which is the raw material of the printing, binding, newspaper, boxmaking, stationery and many other important industries, and would increase unemployment, injure the recovery of those trades and raise the cost of living."

He considered there was nothing that would hamper the success of their trade more than the proposed customs duty. The matter was not launched with a desire to start a debate on Free Trade or Protection, but was drawn up from the point of view of the printer. They felt that the duty on paper or paper materials from abroad would greatly hamper the printing trade.

Mr. W. H. Thomas (Middlesbrough) seconded, observing that the proposed duty would shackle the printing trade. It was necessary they should increase production in every way and bring up the standard of living. But it was absolutely impossible to get back to the conditions in 1914 unless they could get the material and the price of production down. He hoped the Government would not attempt in any ridiculous manner to restrict their trade.

The resolution was unanimously agreed to.

Increased Postal Rates.

Mr. E. Geo. Arnold (Leeds) moved that: "This meeting of printers from all parts of the United Kingdom views with serious alarm the proposals of the Postmaster-General to increase the postal rates of printed matter and post cards, and is of the opinion that every effort should be made to prevent these rates from coming into operation, both by approaching individual members of Parliament, and by putting the matter before the representatives of Labour in the Printing Industry and the Federation of British Industries."

Mr. Arnold read a letter which had been sent to the Postmaster-General with a request from the Joint Industrial Council of their industry to receive a deputation. The letter stated that 250,000 workers and 5,000 employers were represented. It pointed out that unemployment in the industry was at a high level, and that the new rates would undoubt-

edly curtail the use of advertising methods hitherto used, and have an unfortunate influence on efforts being made to improve the general industrial situation. He also pointed out that British printers, after the war, were asked to capture the picture post card trade of Germany, and had laid down plans to do so. An export trade had been created, but this depended entirely upon the home market being secured as well. The picture post card industry might have to close down if the postal rates were increased. A reply from Mr. Kellaway was read, stating that he was considering the question of receiving a joint deputation from the Federation and other bodies. Mr. Arnold added that these rates came into operation on June 13th and it was not impossible that the G.P.O. people in their proposal to receive all the bodies together might continue the idea of dawdling the thing until after the rates had become operative. They must do all they could to prevent that.

Mr. Oscar Griffith (London) seconded and the motion was unanimously agreed to.

Dr. MacLehose referred to the question of railway rates, and said the members could be quite sure that when the next stage arose in the negotiations it would be attended to by the Federation staff with the same care as the initial preparation of statistics had been gathered together.

Assessment of Machinery.

Answering a question as to assessment of machinery, Mr. A. E. Goodwin, general secretary, said the advice they gave was that where local authorities were taking up this matter the best the ratepayer could do was to get expert advice at once on the particular assessment. The law as it stood gave local authorities power to assess machinery. The position was difficult because authorities in some districts dealt with fixed machinery on a different basis from that of other districts. The best plan is to fight these things out locally. One firm assessed at £400 a year got the amount reduced to something like £120. "You can do far better locally with your local rating authority than in any other way," added Mr. Goodwin. Before any new assessment was made public notices had to be given, and ratepayers had the right to see the assessments and ask for full details. If they were not satisfied they could appeal, and if they failed they could appeal further to the quarter sessions.

Next Conference in Scotland.

An invitation to hold the next conference in Scotland was accepted, the place of meeting to be fixed later.

The meeting then closed.

In the evening the delegates dined together at the Grand Hotel. Mr. E. W. Humphries presided over a large attendance.

Mr. R. A. Austen-Leigh proposed the toast of "The Craft of Printing," and Mr. E. W. Humphries responded. Sir William Waterlow, K.B.E., proposed "Scarboro' and its Mayor," and the Mayor of Scarboro' (Alderman M. T. Whittaker) responded. Mr. E. G. Arnold proposed "The Visitors," and Mr. John C. Cop-

pock responded. The toast of "The Chairman" was proposed by Brigadier General W. Wright Bemrose. During the evening songs were given by Mr. A. Broadbent and Mr. Norman King, and sketches by Mr. William Allen.

A number of drives were enjoyed during the stay of the conference in Scarboro', and the arrangements made by the Scarboro' Hospitality Committee were greatly appreciated. The delegates and friends attended special concerts at the Spa and the Floral Hall, and there was a well-attended dance at the Grand Hotel. A golf competition at Gainton for a cup given by Mr. H. Dennis, of Scarboro', was won by Mr. T. H. Conn, 95—11—84.

New British Patents.

Applications.

- Bigg, H. T., Jones, P. H., and Stone, H. B. Loose-leaf ledgers, etc. 13,768.
- Burroughs, E. S., and Toye, W. E. Loose-leaf binders. 14,483.
- Burroughs, E. S., and Rhind, W. A. Loose-leaf binders. 14,699.
- Hoe and Co., Ltd., R. (Hoe and Co.). Plate-cooling and finishing machines. 14,456.
- James, F. (Rundle). Loose-leaf binders. 14,362.
- Maschinenfabrik Augsburg-Nurnberg Akt.-Ges. Sheet-doffing devices for printing machines. 14,346.
- Moser, A. H. Collapsible cardboard post-box. 14,726.
- Mowbray, S. T. Multi-colour printing machines. 14,294.
- Pusino, O. Type-setting machines. 14,469.

Specifications Published.

1920.

- Wycherley, S. R., and Spicer Brothers, Ltd. Loose-leaf binders. 163,402.
- Wycherley, S. R., and Spicer Brothers, Ltd. Loose-leaf binders. 163,403.
- Wycherley, S. R., and Spicer Brothers, Ltd. Loose-leaf binders. 163,404.
- Linotype and Machinery Ltd., and Evenson, G. Assembling mechanism of typographical composing and casting machines 163,575.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATIONS OPEN TO PUBLIC INSPECTION BEFORE ACCEPTANCE.

1921.

- Traube, A. Process for making coloured pictures. 163,336 and 163,337.
- Maschinenfabrik Augsburg-Nurnberg Akt.-Ges. Sheet positioning gauges or markers for printing machines. 163,697.

MESSRS. JAMES SPICER AND SONS, LTD., have issued a price list of a wide range of letter files and folders, envelopes, cards, boards and tags.

Trade Notes.

P. AND K. T. F. NEW OFFICES.—The Printing and Kindred Trades Federation of the United Kingdom has purchased the freehold of No. 60, Doughty-street, W.C., and intends to take possession at the end of the present quarter.

GENERAL STRICKLAND last week forbade the sale and circulation of the *Freeman's Journal* and *Evening Telegraph* in the Irish martial law area from June 2 until June 9 inclusive, forcible methods being taken to carry the order into effect.

REGIMENTAL JOURNALS.—It has been decided to form an association of conductors of regimental journals, which are about 40 in number, and are published all over the kingdom. A committee has been elected under the chairmanship of Col. Sir Arthur Leatham, the secretary being Capt. W. T. Sergeant of the *Tank Corps Gazette*.

ELECTRICIANS' WAGES.—By provisional agreement between the National Federated Electrical Association and the Electrical Trades Union the London rate of 2s. 6d. per hour has been reduced by a 5 per cent. deduction from the men's weekly earnings as from the first pay-day following May 9th, 1921, with a further reduction of 5 per cent. on the pay-day following July 9th next.

The Interim Industrial Committee of the Envelope and Manufacturing Stationery Industry was in session on Monday during the time the King was opening Southwark Bridge just outside the offices of the Employers' Federation. One of the items of business transacted was to pass a resolution asking the Postmaster General to receive a deputation with reference to the postal rates.

At the annual conference of the National Federation of Retail Newsagents and Stationers last week the Mayor of Scarborough (Alderman Whittaker), in welcoming the delegates, said an attempt was being made to legislate a Dumping Bill which would impose 33½ per cent. duty on imported newsprint (paper on which newspapers are printed). This he described as an attempt to hand over to the British mills a monopoly.

COVENTRY'S MUNICIPAL "PRINTING."—Coventry City Council have been persuaded to make an attempt to do the Corporation printing, and at the last meeting a resolution was carried to purchase a multigraph equipment. Alderman Pridmore (a solicitor) said it was only proposed to purchase one machine at present, but it was thought it might be possible to extend and establish a central printing department, and he estimated the saving at a penny or twopence in the rates. He admitted their printing might not be as good as the professional printer's, and that the minutes would still have to be sent out to be printed. It did not appear any practical printer had been consulted, nor is there any printer on the Council.

The annual outing of the *Star* circulation department took place on Monday, when a numerous party journeyed by motor coaches to Chertsey.

MESSRS. BEMROSE AND SONS, LTD., are sending out to the trade an attractive sample packet and price list of the Bemrose Series of daily and monthly calendar tear-offs for 1922.

At the Mansion House on Thursday there was a further hearing and adjournment of the case in which the National Labour Press is proceeded against for publishing "The Theses of the Communist International."

THERE were some notable items in last week's sale of the Brooke library. For a faulty First Folio Shakespeare £2,650 was paid. The first book printed in Italy containing wood-cut engravings, the 1478 "Meditationes" of Turrecremata fetched £240.

WHILE the average of wages in Hungary is calculated as giving an increase to about 15 times the 1914 figures (against cost of living about 44 times), the wages in the Hungarian bookbinding trade have increased to only 11 times the pre-war rates.

The *Sunday Illustrated*, a new paper with large expectations as to circulation and prestige, is to be published on July 3rd. While Messrs. Odhams are naturally reticent, it is generally known that big plans are on foot to make this issue a large factor in the field of illustrated Sunday papers.

The *Bromley Chronicle*, a weekly newspaper, which has been in existence for well over a quarter of a century, ceased publication on Thursday. It has been purchased by Messrs. Merritt and Hatcher, proprietors of the *Kentish Mercury*, and will be incorporated with the *Bromley Mercury*, one of their local editions.

EVERY printer has received an Order Form referring to publications issued by the Cost and Charges Committee of the Federation of Master Printers. On the back of the form are some important references to the new Paper Record. The importance of an accurately-kept record of stock cannot be over emphasized. Every printer who is not in possession of detailed information of his stock is urged by the committee to instal this system at once.

"WHISK" MIXING MACHINE.—A useful machine, which perhaps not every bookbinder and other user of adhesives is acquainted with, is the "Whisk" Mixing Machine, marketed by Mr. W. F. Pickford, of 8, Jersey-road, Ilford, who is also the supplier of Hill's pattern gums and cold glues and the "Gumara" pattern gums and glues. The "Whisk" machine, which is supplied in various sizes, adaptable for hand or power drive, is of sound and simple construction and claims to have great labour-saving capabilities in the breaking down of pastes, gums, cold glues and all kinds of soluble compounds requiring the addition of water or other liquids, to be turned out ready for instant use and free from lumps.



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THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 1921.

Current Topics.

The Wages Position.

At the annual meeting of the Federation of Master Printers at Scarborough the president reported that the Labour Committee of the Federation had met the representatives of the Printing and Kindred Trades Federation on May 24th and submitted to them a strong case showing the present serious position of the industry, the great volume of unemployment, the shortage of work, and the need for reduction of costs in order to increase the demand for printing. The workers' representatives, he said, had been informed that it was not the desire of the employers that wages should revert to pre-war figures, providing the conditions of the industry and of the country would permit of the higher wages being maintained, but the cost-of-living index figure of the Board of Trade was now at about the same level as it was prior to the last two increases in wages, and therefore the employers thought they were justified in

suggesting that wages should be reduced to the extent of 15s. per week for male workers, 5s. 6d. for women workers, with a corresponding reduction for learners. It was reported that the representatives of the unions had promised to submit the case to their various executives and that the conference would be resumed at the earliest possible date. The action taken by the Federation Council and Labour Committee was fully approved by the general body of members assembled from all parts of the country. Thus, the next step now rests with the men's representatives. They have arranged to hold a meeting on the 16th inst., when delegates from all the various unions concerned will attend. We take it that soon after the 16th the men's representatives will be prepared to meet again in conference with the employers.

* * *

The New Postal Burdens.

HOW WIDELY felt in commercial circles is the fear of disastrous effects upon trade if the proposed increased postal rates on printed matter are allowed to come into operation is shown by the numerous voices of protest now being raised on every hand. The printing industry, as we indicate on another page, has spoken in no doubtful fashion. Among later actions of protest an important one was the deputation which on Tuesday waited upon the Postmaster-General on behalf jointly of the Newspaper Proprietors' Association, the Empire Press Union, the Weekly Newspaper and Periodical Proprietors' Association, and the London Association of Trade and Technical Journals; the deputation was introduced by Viscount Burnham. On Tuesday also Mr. Kellaway received deputations from the National Chamber of Trade and the Press. At a meeting of the National Federation of Retail Newsagents, Booksellers and Stationers, held on Tuesday at Australia House, Strand, a strong resolution of protest was adopted. The many protests that have been expressed are very forcible, and the arguments adduced appear incontrovertible. Surely if an adequate discussion of the matter is forthcoming, there may yet at the eleventh hour be a likelihood of the withholding of this new tax on trade. Sir Rowland Blades has taken great interest in the subject, and in view of the serious effects of the changes to the whole business community, put down the following question in the House of Commons addressed to the Prime Minister: "Whether, in view of the serious consequences of the proposed increases in postage rates to British trade generally, and especially to the printing

trade, and the inevitable resulting increase of unemployment, he will either arrange for the Post Office Estimates to be put down before the 13th June or else afford the House some other opportunity of discussing the changes before their introduction." The following reply was received from Mr. Austen Chamberlain, the Leader of the House: "It is hoped that the discussion on the Post Office Estimates will take place on Thursday, 9th June, when an opportunity will be provided for discussing the proposed changes."

• • •

Science and the Cost of Print.

ANOTHER of the many indications of the need for finding means to reduce the cost of printing is found in the fourth report, just issued, of the Conjoint Board of Scientific Societies. The report states that an exceptional number of papers are being communicated to the societies, including many held up during the war, but the resources of the societies, which have not increased, are insufficient, at present prices of printing, to publish even the normal pre-war number. The country is thus in danger of being seriously handicapped at a time when the rehabilitation of industry is in most serious need of scientific assistance.

Personal.

THE Birthday Honours List includes as usual several names associated with the printing and allied trades.

AMONG the new peers is Sir Henry Dalziel, chairman of United Newspapers, Ltd., the company which controls the *Daily Chronicle* and *Lloyd's Weekly News*, also chairman of, and a big shareholder in, *Reynold's Weekly*.

A BARONETCY is conferred upon Mr. Wm. Ewart Berry, editor-in-chief of the *Sunday Times*, of which he is also a director and one of the principal shareholders; chairman and director of the *Financial Times*; director of the company which owns the *Daily Graphic*, the *Graphic*, and the *Bystander*; director of the St. Clement's Press.

ANOTHER new baronet is Sir Arthur Munro, Sutherland, K.B.E., proprietor of *Newcastle Chronicle*, *Evening Chronicle*, *Weekly Chronicle*, *Illustrated Chronicle*, *North Mail*, *Sunday Sun*, and *Sporting Man*.

SIR WILLIAM ROBERTSON NICOLL, M.A., LL.D., editor of the *British Weekly* since 1886, becomes a Companion of Honour.

AMONG the new knights is James Campbell Percy, D.L., J.P., Hon. Lieutenant, R.N., during war; proprietor of *Motor News*, *Irish Builder*, *Irish Cyclist* and *Motor Cyclist*; chairman Sackville Press.

THE RT. HON. LORD ASKWITH, K.C.B., will address the members of the Livery of the Worshipful Company of Stationers at their monthly lunch at Stationers' Hall, next Wednesday, June 15th, when he will speak on "The International Power of Printing."

MR. F. A. DAVIES (London Printing and Kindred Trades Federation) has succeeded Mr. R. A. Austen-Leigh as chairman of the London District Committee of the Joint Industrial Council. Mr. Austen-Leigh declined re-election as chairman, but agreed to act as vice-chairman for the ensuing year.

THE positions of joint secretaries of the District Committee have undergone a double change. Mr. W. Whyte, secretary of the L.M.P.A., succeeds Major Fordyce Birch, while Mr. E. J. Buckton has been nominated by the London Printing and Kindred Trades Federation in succession to Mr. Woodgate Stevens.

MR. A. W. FOSTER, secretary of the Paper-makers' Association, will be the guest of the London Master Printers' Association at their monthly lunch on Tuesday next, 14th inst., at the Connaught Rooms, and, it is expected, will deliver an address.

MR. R. A. AUSTEN-LEIGH, the president of the L.M.P.A., will make a statement as to the wages negotiations.

MR. W. CADOGAN, president of the Newport branch of the South Wales group of the Typographical Association, was at the annual meeting at Newport elected group president in the place of Mr. J. Ford, Cardiff, who retired.

MR. EDGAR WHITELEY, manager of the National Labour Press, is a candidate for the vacancy on the Co-operative Wholesale Society Directorate.

MR. ARTHUR BAUMANN, who has been connected with the *Saturday Review* for many years, has resigned the editorship and parted with his controlling interest owing to ill-health. Sir E. Mackay Edgar is the new proprietor.

T.U. AMALGAMATION.—Although there is not yet unanimity in trade union circles as to how the matter can most readily be attempted, it appears that the executive of the Printing and Kindred Trades Federation of the United Kingdom are definitely charged with the duty of drawing up a scheme of amalgamation of unions in the industry.

Commercial Intelligence.

CURRENT SHARE PRICES.

Amalgamated Press, Pref., 95s.; Associated Newspapers, 7 p.c. Cum., 17s. 3d., 17s. 9d., Pref., 13s. 3d.; British Glues and Chemicals, 15s. 9d., 15s. 3d.; J. Byrom and Sons, 15s. 3d.; *Daily Mirror* Newspapers, 8 p.c. Cum. Pref., 18s. 6d.; John Dickinson, 24s. 4½d., 1st Pref., 65½; Ilford, Pref., 14s.; International Linotype, 53; Kelly's Directories, Pref., 12s. 10½d.; Lamson Paragon, 16s. 6d., 10 p.c. Pref., 10s. 6d., 10s. 11d.; Linotype, A Deb., 52; Charles Marsden, 6 p.c. 1st Mt. Debs (Reg.), 100, Pref., 16s.; George Newnes, 12s. 4½d., Pref., 12s. 3d.; Odham's Press, 9s. 9½d., 8 p.c. Cum. Pref., 14s. 9d., 13s. 9d.; Sunday Pictorial Newspapers, Pref., 15s. 6d., 16s. 6d.; Raphael Tuck, 16s. 3d., 16s. 4½d.; Wall-Paper Manufacturers, Def., 7s. 8½d.; Weldon's, 33s. 6d.; Wiggins, Teape and Co. (1919), 17s. 9d., 17s. 7 p.c. Cum. Pref., 17s. 6d., 8 p.c. 1st Mt. Red. Debs, 103; Winterbottom Book Cloth, Pref., 77½.

DIVIDENDS AND REPORTS.

ASSOCIATED NEWSPAPERS.—Profit, after paying income tax and providing for depreciation, £104,464, compared with £189,671 for previous year. To finance greatly increased paper requirements company issued during year £250,000 ten year income stock. They also issued in September last 250,000 deferred shares as bonus out of undivided profits to holders of original 500,000 deferred shares, which were allotted fully paid to vendor on flotation of company. Deferred shares this year get £50,000 in dividend, against £100,000 last year, equal to 8 per cent. on old and 4 per cent. on new, as against 20 per cent.; forward £36,119, against £58,655.

NEW COMPANIES.

NORFOLK STUDIO, LTD.—Capital, £6,000, in £1 shares; writers, designers and printers of advertisements, printers, newspaper proprietors, etc. Private company. Subscribers: M. H. Smith and W. Harvey.

FOYLE'S EDUCATIONAL, LTD.—Capital, £10,000, in £1 shares (9,000 preference), to acquire the business of booksellers and publishers carried on by W. and G. Foyle, Ltd., of 125, Charing-cross-road, W.C. First directors: G. S. Foyle, W. A. Foyle, and W. L. de S.

Lennox. Registered office: Barham House, Handel-street, W.C.1.

THE DORSET DAILY PRESS, LTD.—Nominal capital of £15,000, in £1 shares, to adopt an agreement with G. F. Peek, of Delanoy, Guernsey, and to carry on the business of newspaper proprietors, printers, publishers, stationers, booksellers and newsagents, etc. Private company. First directors: G. F. Peek, W. R. French, F. F. Peek and G. B. Ash. Registered office: 57, St. Thomas'-street, Weymouth.

V. E. JONES AND CO., LTD.—Capital, £450, in £1 shares, to adopt an agreement with V. E. Jones, Mary E. Heath and J. Burr, for the acquisition of the business carried on by them at 5, Pilgrim-street, and to carry on the business of stationers, printers, etc. Private company. First directors: V. E. Jones, J. Burr, and Mary E. Heath. Registered office: 5, Pilgrim-street, Ludgate-hill, E.C.

WALTON HARVEY, LTD.—Capital, £1,000, in £1 shares; writers, designers and printers of advertisements, printers, newspaper proprietors, etc. Private company. Subscribers: M. H. Smith and W. Harvey.

LONDON AND COUNTIES ADVERTISING AGENCY, LTD.—Capital, £500, in £1 shares; advertising and publicity experts, consultants and contractors, advertisement writers and designers, journalists, etc. Private company. First directors: G. Davis and F. Shearman. Registered office: 141, New Bond-street, W.1.

"THE METROPOLITAN REVIEW," LTD.—Nominal capital of £11,000, in 10,000 ordinary shares of £1 each and 20,000 deferred shares of 1s. each; newspaper proprietors and publishers, etc. Private company. Subscribers: G. Reynolds and C. W. Church.

GLOSSOP PRINTERS, LTD.—Capital, £20,000, in £1 shares, to take over the business of printers, stationers and bookbinders, carried on (1) by T. Grant at Market-street, Glossop, as "Schofield and Grant," (2) by J. T. Whitham, at High street West, Glossop; (3) by J. W. Fernaby, at Station-road, Hadfield, and (4) by W. H. Irlam and Co., Ltd., at Surrey-street, Glossop, (5) the business of printers, newspaper publishers, stationers and bookbinders, carried on by the Glossop Dale Chronicle Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd., at Norfolk-street, Glossop, and (6) the business of a printer, newspaper publisher, stationer and bookbinder carried on by S. T. Ashton, at Howard-street, Glossop, as the Glossop Advertiser Printing and Publishing Co. Private

company. First directors: T. Grant, S. T. Ashton, H. Stapley, J. W. Fernaby, J. W. I. Workington and J. T. Whitham. Registered office: 6, Howard-street, Glossop.

GREENSLADE AND CO. (READING), LTD.—Capital £5,000, in £1 shares; stationers, printers, stereotypers, photographic printers, envelope makers, account book and paper bag manufacturers, box makers, cardboard manufacturers, etc. Private company. First directors: T. J. Peacock, H. D. Peacock, E. O. Gerrard, G. O. Tayler, and P. C. Howell. Registered office: Factory Bridge, Reading.

GODFREE AND HEWITT, LTD.—Capital £3,000, in £1 shares; manufacturers of, and dealers in, cereals, paper and paper bags, printers, etc. Private company. First directors: J. W. B. Godfree, Mrs. A. Godfree, and B. Hewitt. Registered office: 46, Holloway-road, Birmingham.

PEMBERTON'S (GATESHEAD), LTD.—Capital £55,000 in £1 shares (10,000 preference); to take over the business of paper manufacturers and merchants, and waste paper dealers carried on by R. F. Crankshaw and A. Crankshaw at Mirk lane and Bush-yard, High-street, Gateshead-on-Tyne, and at 77, Cannon-street, E.C., as "Pemberton and Co." Private company. Subscribers: J. H. Clark and A. Halliday. Directors: T. Crankshaw, A. Taylor, R. F. Crankshaw, A. Crankshaw, J. H. Clark and A. Halliday. Registered office: 11, Mirk-lane, Gateshead-on-Tyne.

KNIGHT'S PUBLISHING CO., LTD.—Capital £200, in £1 shares; printers, publishers, advertising contractors, etc. Private company. First directors: H. S. Macintosh, J. Casanova and C. J. Livermore. Registered office: 149, Strand, W.C.

FRICKERS, LTD.—Capital, £1,500, in £1 shares. To adopt an agreement with Mary A. Abrahams and to carry on the business of printers, lithographers, paper, paper bag and box makers, type foundries, photographers, manufacturers of and dealers in playing, visiting and fancy cards, dealers in stamps, etc. Private company. Directors: D. H. Juniper, Mary Agnes Abrahams and Jessie M. Hawkins. Registered office: 84, Weston-hill, Upper Norwood, S.E.

COMPANY MORTGAGES AND CHARGES.

Fresh Obligations registered pursuant to Section 93 of the Companies' (Consolidation) Act, 1908, and Satisfaction registered pursuant to Section 97 of the same Act. (The registration of Satisfaction is not compulsory).

BARLOCK TYPEWRITER' CO., LTD.—Issue on May 25th, 1921, of £3,850 debentures, part of series already registered.

J. HYATT AND CO, LTD. (box and lace manufacturers, paper bag makers, etc., London).—Land registry charge on Ento Works, De Beauvoir-road, Kingsland, N., dated May 11th, 1921, to secure all moneys due or to become due from company to Barclays Bank.

CARDIFF STATIONERY CO., LTD.—Mortgage on 45, South William-street, and 7, Adelaide-street, Cardiff, dated May 11th, 1921, to secure all moneys due or to become due from company to National Provincial and Union Bank of England, Ltd.

GLOBE ROTARY PRESS, LTD.—Issue on May 18th, 1921, of £1,500 debentures, part of a series already registered.

KENT MILNE AND PARTNERS, LTD. (paper merchants and agents, manufacturers of paper bags and wrappings, etc., London).—Particulars of £5,000 debentures, authorised May 12th, 1921; present issue, £3,000; charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital.

UNIVERSAL BUSINESS AGENCIES, LTD.—Particulars of £5,000 debentures, authorised April 28th, 1921; present issue, £1,050; charged on the company's undertaking and property, including uncalled capital.

FISHER KNIGHT AND CO., LTD. (printers, etc., Harpenden).—Debenture, dated May 25th, 1921, to secure £1,500, charged on the company's property, present and future, including uncalled capital. Holders: H. O. Thomas, Byways, Ayres-end, Harpenden.

J. S. DUXBURY AND SONS, LTD. (manufacturers of paper bags and boxes, printers, etc., Blackburn).—First debenture, dated May 12th, 1921, to secure £6,000, charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital. Holders: C. M. Richardson, 23, Railway-road, Blackburn; and J. Harriss, 4, Bartholomew-lane, E.C.

D. MUNRO AND SON, LTD. (bookbinders, Newcastle-on-Tyne).—Satisfaction in full on May 24th, 1921, of debentures dated May 23rd and August 8th, 1912, securing £350.

BANKRUPTCIES, etc.

Re LANGHALL AND WADE, 10, South-street Finsbury, E.C., printers' designers and manufacturers, stationers.—The public examination of these debtors was held at the London Bankruptcy Court last week before Mr. Registrar Francke, the accounts showing total liabilities £4,123 (unsecured £4,072) and net assets valued at £2,353. The business was started in August, 1919, by Ernest Langrish, Stuart Edward Wade and Harold Matthew Langrish, under the style of "Langhall and Wade," and in the following May they were joined by Cuthbert Collingwood. The debtors then purchased the existing business of a printer carried on at 147 and 149, Haydon's-lane, Wimbledon, but only paid £1,150 off the purchase price of £2,100. Three executions were levied at the South-street premises, and in March last the stock was removed by the sheriff. The failure was attributed to lack of capital, heavy interest on borrowed money and depreciation in the value of stock owing to the general slump in trade. The examination of all the debtors was concluded.

The Increased Postal Rates.

Growing Volume of Protest.

The printing and allied trades have not been slow in expressing strong and authoritative protest against the proposed increased postal rates, the announcement of which, as reported last week, was met with a remarkably unanimous volume of protest from those having most to do with print and publicity. Printers are especially concerned in this matter, and the threatened new imposts have caused serious alarm in the trade, as indicated by the strong resolution which was passed (as already reported) by the Federation of Master Printers in annual convention at Scarborough. That protest has since been followed by further action.

Deputations to the Postmaster-General.

Influential deputations from the Joint Industrial Council of the Printing and Allied Trades and of the Post Card Association and Publishers' Association waited upon the Postmaster-General on Monday morning. The deputations included Mr. C. W. Bowerman, M.P., Sir Adolph Tuck, Mr. R. A. Austen-Leigh, Mr. J. J. Keliher, Col. H. Rivers-Fletcher, Mr. G. S. Williams, Mr. A. E. Goodwin, Mr. A. E. Holmes and Mr. T. E. Naylor.

Mr. C. W. Bowerman, M.P., introduced the deputations, and remarked upon the serious effect which the proposed increase in rates would undoubtedly have upon the printing industry.

Mr. A. E. Goodwin submitted a statement which pointed out that the unemployment in the printing industry to day was more serious than it had been for many years. The latest figures available showed that 72,295 workers were now either totally unemployed or partially employed. Any proposal to increase postal rates for printed matter would undoubtedly cause many firms to discontinue direct advertising methods.

Definite evidence was submitted of orders being cancelled from firms who issue market reports, small booklets and circulars which come within the minimum weight. It was also pointed out the proposed increase of the foreign postage would certainly limit the circulation of many journals.

Reference was made to the picture post card section of the trade, Sir Adolph Tuck stating that the former increase on post card rates led to a falling off of at least 30 per cent. in the quantity of cards used, and any further increase would crush the industry altogether.

Facts were also given to show that the increase in postal rates in Canada had led to a falling off in the revenue, and a similar statement was made with regard to Switzerland.

Colonel H. Rivers-Fletcher presented a number of facts and figures showing how firms who adopt direct advertising methods would be very seriously affected by the proposed changes.

Little Hope of Modification.

Mr. Kellaway, replying, expressed his regret that any increase in postal rates should be necessary at the present juncture, but pointed out that no one could complain of insufficient notice. He expressed himself impressed with the temperate and careful statement made by the deputation, but held out little hope of any change being made. He promised, however, to give full consideration to the representations made; and Mr. Bowerman, on behalf of the deputation, thanked him for his courteous reception and the attentive hearing of the case presented.

The Postmaster-General also received a deputation from the National Federation of Retail Newsagents, Booksellers, and Stationers at the General Post Office.

Printers' Protest Meeting.

Further strong protest against the proposed increases was recorded on Monday evening at a meeting of London printers and others concerned in publicity services, which was held at the Stationers' Hall, Ludgate-hill. The gathering, convened by the Association of Master Printers of the London Central Districts, was presided over by Mr. J. D. McCara, and was well attended, many prominent London printers being present.

The convener of the meeting, Mr. W. H. Burchell, hon. secretary of Central Districts Branch of the London Master Printers' Association, introduced the subject, explaining how he had had to call the meeting at very short notice, the "astounding" proposals of the Postmaster-General being made public on the 26th ult. and being due to take effect on the 13th inst. Mr. Burchell stressed the severe effect the proposed abolition of the halfpenny rate would have upon the printing trade. He said it would diminish printers' trade, cause more unemployment amongst their 200,000 employees, cause a huge payment to be made by the Government in out-of-work doles. The printer, getting less work, would require less hands; discharges would have to be made and unemployment caused, while the object sought by the Postmaster-General would be defeated.

Mr. C. W. Bowerman and Mr. A. E. Goodwin reported upon the deputation to the Postmaster-General in the morning. Mr. Bowerman advised every member of the Association to send a postcard to his Member of Parliament asking him to protest to the Prime Minister and the Postmaster-General against the proposals.

Mr. Arthur Chadwick (Amalgamated Publicity Services, Limited), Mr. Samson Clarke and Mr. Fred. G. Hart also took part, and the following resolution was unanimously carried on the motion of Mr. Oscar Griffith:—

"That this meeting, representing upwards of one thousand master printers of London, commends the action of the Federation of Master Printers in at once communicating with the Postmaster-General by letter, and desires to associate itself with and to confirm the resolution passed by the Master Printers' Federation at their annual meeting on May

31st, as follows: 'That this meeting of printers from all parts of the Kingdom views with serious alarm the proposal of the Postmaster-General to increase the postal rates on printed matter and postcards, and is of opinion that every effort should be made to prevent those rates from coming into operation both by approaching individual members of Parliament and by putting the matter before the representatives of labour in the printing industry and the Federation of British Industries.'

Mr. Burchell announced that, in addition to the above-mentioned support, he had received over 500 communications from master printers and industrial firms whose businesses would be seriously affected by the increase of the halfpenny postal rate, expressing full sympathy with the objects of the meeting.

"T.A." Triennial Conference.

Proceedings Commence at Hastings.

The Typographical Association has an important agenda to get through at its triennial delegate meeting, which commenced on Monday. The sessions are being held on St. Leonard's pier, and several hundred delegates are attending.

The Association received a civic reception on Monday, a welcome being given by the Mayor, Alderman W. F. Fellows, himself a printer, and in the evening the Mayor and Mayoress gave an "At Home."

Mr. J. D. French (President), in his opening remarks, welcomed the young men of the movement, saying that their presence was a good omen for the future. The wave of trade unionism was spreading throughout the length and breadth of the country and they were sharing in it. It was up to them to keep the flame burning. Labour to-day was a governing factor.

Mr. H. H. Potter, a local master printer, welcomed the delegates on behalf of the master printers of the Home Counties. He expressed the hope that their deliberations would be to the advantage of their trade and craft. The trade had been lifted to a higher plane during recent years, and they should not let it slip back.

Mr. E. Hemsley (chairman of the Local Trades and Labour Council) welcomed the delegates on behalf of local Labour. He was glad, he said, that employers and employees were pulling together, for that not only tended to stabilise prices, but also to stop the cut-throat competition which had been going on in the labour market.

Mr. O. Connellan proposed a resolution, which was carried, congratulating the miners on their fight.

A resolution was passed stating that the conference viewed with alarm the postal proposals which, if adopted, would be a serious menace to the printing trade.

At Tuesday's sitting of the conference Mr. J. D. French, in the course of an address, dwelt on the industrial unrest in the country, and, says the *Daily Herald*, placed all the responsibility on the Government for not having made proper provision for the aftermath of the war. There was, he said, a conspiracy in the country between the Government and the capitalists to lower the standard of life through a reduction of the wages of the workers. They were, however, not going to take this lying down. So far as they of the printing trade were concerned, they were going to fight a reduction.

The Association was making excellent progress so far as membership and working conditions were concerned. There was a membership of 32,000 and the finances were in a splendid condition.

Gazette.

A WORD OF CAUTION.

In giving the official Gazette information, it must be distinctly understood that we take official records as we find them, and accept no responsibility for inaccuracies, while, as an almost invariable rule, the facts will be found correct. We advise our readers, before forming hasty judgment, to consider that there may be in each case satisfactory explanation which does not appear on the records.—Ed.]

ENGLAND AND WALES.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

George Channon Mankin and John Parker Austin, printers, 126, High-road, Leyton.

Robert Winten and George Clark, paper merchants, 85, Fleet-street.

Arthur George Wright and Alfred Bernard Ankerson, advertising agents, Premier House, Southampton-row.

THE BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1914.

RECEIVING ORDER.

Alexander McDonald, 6, Melbourne-mansions, Queen's Club-gardens, Earl's Court, printer's agent, June 1st. Public examination August 9th, at Bankruptcy-buildings, Carey-street.

HOARDINGS IN AUSTRALIA.—There is strong feeling in Australia against advertisement hoardings as being unsightly. The towns of St. Hilda and Woollahra are abolishing them altogether, though there is naturally some outcry on the part of publicity interests.

TORONTO STRIKE.—Two thousand printers employed in book and job shops in Toronto struck work on June 1st for a 44-hour week and a minimum weekly wage of \$42 (about £10 10s.). Employers offered \$36 (about £9) for a 48-hour week, or \$33 (about £8 5s.) for a 44-hour week. Nearly 100 shops are affected, and it is believed that the strike will last for some time.

Notes and News for

The Bookbinder.

The Bindery and Its Costs.

A trade union official told us recently that so long as the foreman of the binding department gave his hours for every finished job, there was no need for time dockets and there was actually the costing system in operation. That proves the need for cost-finding education among trade leaders. The more thoroughly the operative side of the industry understands the principles of ascertaining cost of production, the more thoroughly will they appreciate the point of view of the administrative side when it says that the attitude of the binding department is detrimental to sound business practice and hurtful to itself. The way the thing is working out in practice is this. In every other department of the allied trades the hours are collected progressively and at the end of every week the management is able to check its charges against its costs. Deficiencies, which are likely to prove serious, can be corrected by adjusting the charges, and a balance which corresponds to safety can be secured. This can be done by treating every job on its own merits as the cost of every individual order is correctly known. The hours recorded and collected for a week belong to that week only, and are not part of the preceding week or any other. Note the difference now, between this procedure and that which the trade union official regards as approximately correct for the bindery. Here the time given by the overseer would be for the finished job and a job might run on for weeks or months before being finally executed and costed out for entry in the day book. A weekly summary of binding hours as collected from the jobs passed down from the department for a single week would stand for nothing. Some of the work may have been in progress in the department for several weeks. For the costing system the figures are useless. Even a six months' record has no value unless an intricate system of stocktaking (which could not be accurate) were arranged. As to the individual times served out for costing, they are every one of them guesses, which correspond in accuracy to the experience, humour, mentality or inconsistency of the overseer. There is no other method of putting the trade on a sound bottom and no other means of eliminating the ignorant price-cutter than by finding out what your work costs per hour, how many hours it takes, and costing out accordingly.

The Docket is Bound to Come.

In the whole course of our comment on cost-finding and time dockets in the bindery

we have never had a single criticism or question from the trade union side. Many queries and comments have been passed on from master binders and managers, whose views generally coincide with our own on the subject. If there is variance from our remarks it must be on the part of those who imagine times to be a source of evil or danger. It is all the more strange, therefore, that no one man can come forward to take exception to the view we are constantly putting forward. On one point, however, all are agreed, and in this it is possible the reason for abstention from argument can be found, namely, that the docket is bound to come. Every binder and every official with whom the subject has been recently discussed has found himself admitting, sometimes freely, sometimes grudgingly, that the docket is bound to come. For this reason we are inclined to believe that it will come quickly, and we are equally convinced that it will come smoothly and work well.

The Trade Outlook.

The state of trade in the bookbinding industry is bad. On every hand short time is the rule and the coal stoppage is not the only reason. With the whole trade and business of the country undergoing the severest depression it has ever known there is no call for stationery and no need for books. There may be a slight improvement when coal comes forward again but it will take months to get back to anything like normal. Another factor which operates against demand is the price of books. Despite falls in the cost of material the cost of account and stationery books works out at practically three times pre-war cost. Every binder and stationer is constantly having to meet complaints over price. With complaints from his clients, and price cutting to contend with among his competitors, the position is anything but a happy one. There appears no help for it but to carry on, hoping for an increased volume of work, a further fall in the price of materials, including paper, and a fuller volume of hours to the working week, which will make a wider distribution of the oncost charges possible.

Binding Materials Market.

In the market for materials not much change is to be recorded for the last month. Leather prices have actually hardened a little owing to better demand from the boot people. Pigskin is abundant, and good quality skins are now available. There is no demand for light leathers, however, for the fancy goods trade is at a standstill and bookbinders have

no desire to buy. Bookcloth, buckram and fabrics remain unaltered, as also do marble papers and millboards. Glue has declined about £5 per ton and strawboards are now down as low £7 per ton. English box-board is offered for clearance at competitive figures by the makers. The prospect of a tariff on binders' paper and boards is one that is not welcomed by the industry, for the price of binding is already prohibitive enough, and there are certain classes of board and paper which we simply cannot produce in this country. Already gold leaf has taken a leap forward in response to the reparation tariff against German goods. When the price of gold leaf jumps from 65s. to 75s. the ordinary person can be excused from wondering how Germany is actually being made to pay. In the process of making other people pay it appears to be extremely likely that all our paper, boards, ink, postage and everything we touch or use is going to cost us more.

VICTORIAN LIBEL LAW.—A newspaper proprietor in Victoria has to take the risk of an action for libel if he publishes in good faith a statement made at a meeting of a municipal council. A recent case in which a Woodend newspaper was mulct in damages shows that this law operates very harshly. The matter has been taken up with the Victorian Attorney-General by the Victorian Country Press Association and as a result the point is to be

brought to the notice of the Cabinet. It is pointed out that more than 30 years ago the Imperial authorities had realised the injustice of the act which permitted such a prosecution to be successful, and by an amendment then passed by Parliament newspapers were free to publish statements made at meetings of councils or other public bodies, and even at public meetings, provided that no malice was shown. A similar amendment had been adopted in practically every British Dominion, and was actually in force in the majority of the Australian States.

Replies to Box Nos. to be addressed to the Offices,
"BRITISH AND COLONIAL PRINTER AND STATIONER," 58, SHOE LANE, LONDON, E.C.4.

SPECIAL PREPAID ADVERTISEMENTS

Situations Vacant.

H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

AN Examination, open to ex-service men only, for 14 permanent appointments as **PRINTING** and **BINDING CLERK** will be held on September 1st, 1921.—For full particulars apply to the Controller, H.M. Stationery Office, Princes-street, Westminster, London, S.W.1. 13836

Financial.

LITHOGRAPHIC AND PRINTING BUSINESS.

WANTED, PARTNER with capital for an excellent, old-established Lithographic and General Printing Business in Aberdeen, to take place of Partner retiring.—Particulars may be obtained by bona fide inquirers from Mackenzie and Wilson, Advocates, 77, Crown-street, Aberdeen. 13837

Miscellaneous.

PRINTERS.—Examination for Permanent Posts in Civil Service announced; Costing knowledge essential.—Particulars and syllabus of postal tuition write Box 13838.



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English Gold Leaf.

Bookbinders' Sundries, etc.
 Brown and White Blocking Powder.
 Gold Skewings and Rubbers Bought.
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Trade Union Matters.

MR. S. STUBBINS, U.P.B.M.R. and P.W., in a conversation the other day, said his union was suffering from a good deal of out of work, but that the numbers signing the book were steadily decreasing week by week. He was optimistic enough to think that on the settlement of the coal dispute work in the book-binding section of the trade would begin to look up, as there was a lot of work about that was only a waiting orders for execution.

ONE of the hindrances to trade at the present time was that publishers and printers were waiting for the price of paper to become more stabilised. When this was done orders would be given in millions instead of in thousands, as they are to-day.

IN regard to the employers' decision to approach the unions for a reduction in wages of 15s. a week, Mr. Stubbins said a strong feeling is being expressed that a more opportune time for a reduction of any kind would have been when trade gets more normal, and full time is again in full swing. The idea of a reduction by any amount to men who are now working only two or three days a week is felt to be quite an impracticable proposition.

THE Amalgamated Society of Lithographic Printers, though suffering like other unions from an abnormal amount of unemployment, are "carrying on" during the crisis, and in spite of the baleful effects of the coal stoppage, are able to strike an optimistic note. This was the view expressed the other day by Mr. Woodgate Stevens, the secretary, who is firmly of opinion that upon the resumption of work in the mines there will be an enormous influx of orders into the lithographic section of the trade. He considered that as far as unemployment was concerned, the low water mark had been reached, and on the question of short time the employers were arranging the matter with the employees as amicably as possible, there being complete reciprocity on both sides.

MR. STEVENS believes that the application of photo-mechanical work to litho printing augurs well for the future of that branch of the trade, backed up as it is by the knowledge gained, though sometimes tardily, of the photographic side, which had been exploited by the employers. In consequence of developments in this direction, he was of opinion that the litho trade in the near future would be exactly the reverse of to-day: instead of unemployment there would be an insufficiency of labour.

THE Clerical Section of the N.A.T.S.O.P.A. is suffering, along with other unions, from an exceptional amount of unemployment, due

primarily to the coal stoppage and also to the general depression in trade. Its members are, however, looking forward hopefully to a better condition of things in the near future, and are standing by the results of the coal trouble.

THE newspaper and periodical clerk has not in the past had many advantages offered him of gaining knowledge in his specialised calling, hence a strong movement is on foot that if the proposed new technical school should come to fruition he should be included in its activities. A syllabus which would include such subjects as "Make-up of Paper," "Various kinds of Blocks Used," "Various Classes of Advertisements," "Composition—Hand and Machine," "Methods of Printing," "Photogravure as Applied to Printing," etc., would offer to the newspaper clerk good theoretical groundwork, from which he would be able still further to increase his knowledge and usefulness.

At a meeting of the Midland Master Printers' Alliance at Derby, Mr. E. H. Lee, for many years president of the Nottingham Master Printers' Association, was unanimously elected president, in succession to General Bemrose, of Derby.

THE monthly meeting of the Printers' Managers and Overseers Association was held on Tuesday, when, at the conclusion of the evening's business, Mr. Frederick T. Corkett, F.R.P.S., lectured on "Photo-Lithography and Lithotex."

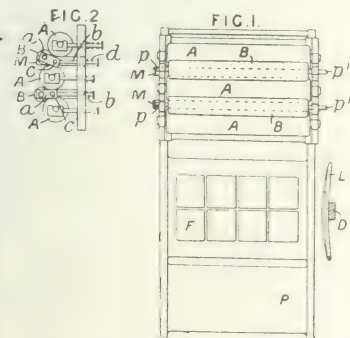
A FATAL lift accident, involving the death of William Davies, occurred at the South Wales Printing Works, Westgate street, Cardiff, on Monday evening. The lift is used for carrying goods from floor to floor, and Davies, it is understood, was getting into it on the ground floor when it started and he became wedged between the floor of the lift and the beam of the floor above. He was at once removed to hospital, but expired soon after admission.

THROUGH the generosity of Mrs. Davies, of Plasdinam, an addition has been made to the National Library of Wales of four printed books and two manuscripts, each of six volumes, being of exceptional value for their beauty and rarity. The printed books include Caxton's (1) *Speculum Vitæ Christi* 1488, one of the rarest of the books printed by him, and (2) *The Polychronicon*, of which Caxton finished his revision and continuation of the text on July 2nd, 1482, and printed it soon after. A *Wynkyn de Worde* book is an edition of the same work, the *Polychronicon*, printed in 1495. Most valuable of all is a copy of the Great Bible, 1539, printed on vellum. Coverdale (the translator) and Grafton (the publisher and printer) in a letter to Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex, dated Paris, June 23rd, 1538, state their intention to print "two ensamples on parchment." One of these copies is in the library of St. John's College, Cambridge.

New Inventions.

Platen Inking Apparatus.

Travelling inking apparatus for platen machines, as patented by Mr. A. Marzio, is provided with longitudinally reciprocated distributing rollers mounted on movable bearings, so that they may be in contact with the inking rollers in all positions, and distributing plates are arranged as extensions at one or both ends of the form. Distributing rollers B are journaled in frames *a* pivoted at *c* on

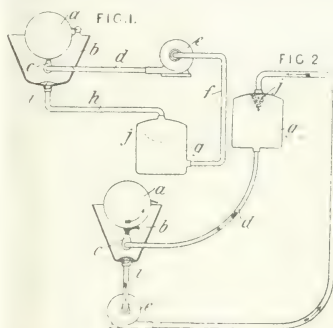


rods *b* pressed inwardly by springs *d*, so that each roller B may remain always in contact with two inking rollers A. The rollers B have extended axles *p*, *p'*, which may be provided with anti friction balls, engaged at the ends *p* by springs M, and moved at the other ends *p'* by a cam-plate L on the operating rod D of the machine. Distributing plates P extend from one or both ends of the form F to continue the rotation of the inking and distributing rollers after they move off the form.

Intaglio Inking Apparatus.

Inking apparatus for intaglio printing cylinders, as patented by Mr. G. W. Mascord, comprises a series of nozzles arranged under the cylinder and from which the ink is ejected at low pressure by a pump, or by gravity from a raised reservoir, surplus ink being collected in a fountain or trough beneath the cylinder. As shown in Fig. 1, the intaglio cylinder *a* is mounted above and within a trough or fountain *b* and immediately below the cylinder is a nozzle member *c* connected by the

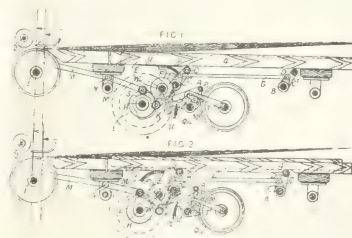
supply pipe *d* to a low pressure delivery pump *e* supplied by a pipe *f* from a reservoir *g*. Surplus ink from the trough *b* is returned through a pipe *h* to the reservoir *g*. Strainers *i*, *j* may be provided in trough *b* and reservoir *g*. As shown in Fig. 2, the ink is supplied to the nozzles *c* through the pipe *d* by gravity



from a reservoir *g*, the pump *e* being provided for returning surplus ink from the trough *b* to the reservoir *g*. The nozzle member *c* may be tubular and have nozzles formed therein by flaring perforations, or have nozzles mounted upon it.

Sheet Feeding Devices.

In a sheet-feeding device for printing presses or the like, the invention of Messrs. Kuhn Maschinen und Werkzeugfabric, B., of



the kind in which sheets are forwarded from a fanned-out pile by rollers as 1, 2, the fanned out pile is supported on a table con-

sisting of a grid of bars 4, and the pile is advanced intermittently by a second grid, the bars E of which are raised, moved towards the feed rollers, then depressed and returned to normal position, the movements of the second grid being controlled by a feeler device which is inactive when the sheets are in a position to permit the feeding devices to act on the sheets. As shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the feeler consists of a lever M, which is mounted on a shaft N fitted with an arm M' with a roller 5 in contact with a cam L. When there is no sheet to prevent the upward movement of the lever M, this lever moves upwards when the cam L permits the roller 5 on the lever M' to drop into the cam recess. This movement of the lever M' causes a thrust pin P to actuate a latch Q to connect a reciprocating rod T to a segment u which is thus oscillated by the rod T. The segment u gears with a shaft w fitted with a number of segments, each segment being connected by two bands y to a bar E of the movable grid. The bars E are thus advanced towards the

pile by the segment u, and return by a spring z, the bars E being raised as they move forwards by rollers D on arms C, C', mounted on shafts A, B, connected by a rod G and lever arms F. The shaft A is oscillated by a second cam on the shaft of the cam L, and a lever arm K. As soon as the sheets pass beyond the feeler M, the latch Q is unlatched, and the means for advancing the bars E is thrown out of action.

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WAR MEMORIAL WING.

The Committee have much pleasure in announcing that

The Right Hon.

Sir LAMING WORTHINGTON-EVANS, Bart, M.P.

(Secretary of State for War),

has kindly consented to Open the

Printing Trades' War Memorial Wing

On Saturday Afternoon, June 18th.

The Roll of Honour, containing over 2,500 names of men who fell in the War, will be unveiled by Lady WORTHINGTON-EVANS.

Trains leave London Bridge (L.B. & S.C. Railway) for Oxford at 11.50 a.m., 1.38 and 2.25 p.m.; Victoria, 9.10 a.m., 12.0 and 2.25 p.m. Return trains leave Oxford at 7.16, 7.27, and 9.33 p.m. Return fare, third class, 4s. 11d.

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Glue Size in 1 cwt. Bags and Packets.

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DIRECTORY.

Rates: £3 per annum (52 insertions)
for each card of 2 lines or under; each
additional line £1 6s. per annum extra.

BOOKBINDING MACHINES.

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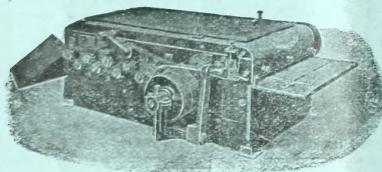
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